

Royal



Yorkers

With the latest Advices, Foreign and Domestick

REPLACEMENT OF JEREMIAH FRENCH MARKER

If you turn back to the August, 2003 issue of the Newsletter (Issue 2003-4) you will find a article by Shaun Wallace about Lt. Jeremiah French. He initially served during the Revolution as a Captain, company commander, with the Queen's Loyal Rangers. After being taken prisoner at the Battle of Bennington, in 1779 he was released through a prisoner exchange. Eventually he was transferred to the 2nd Battalion, King's Royal Yorkers with the rank of Lieutenant, serving in Captain George Singleton's Light Infantry Company. It is his home that stands across the street from Cooke's Tavern at Upper Canada Village, and his regimental coat that is the only surviving Yorker uniform (now in the possession of the Canadian War Museum). Shaun has now added one more piece to the Jeremiah French story.

Last summer, while researching Jeremiah French, I stumbled upon what may be considered a national disaster. In an effort to resolve some differences concerning the name of Jeremiah's wife, my quest took me in search of the Jeremiah's grave marker.

First I started with the Pioneer Memorial at Upper Canada Village. Where else would such a prominent stone be located. Much to my surprise I discovered that it was not incorporated into the memorial.

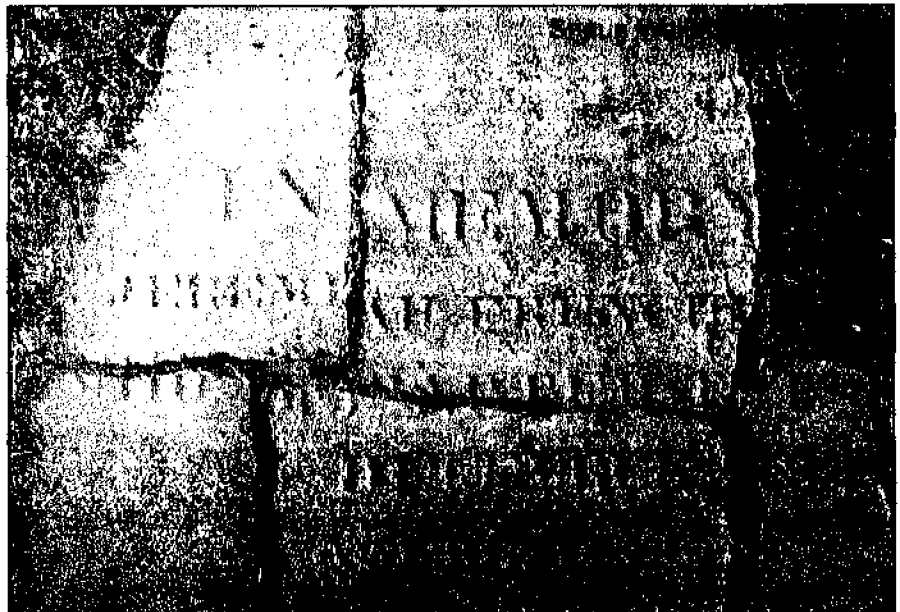
I then visited the Loyalist Resource Centre in Morrisburg (Lynne Cook). I knew that Jeremiah French had lived near Maple Grove and indeed his house had been relocated to Upper Canada Village in the late 1950's. Lynne informed me that the Maple Grove Cemetery had been relocated just west of Cornwall on the south side of Hwy #2 during the Seaway project. We pulled the Maple Grove Cemetery

books and started looking for Jeremiah's grave site. There was no stone identified on the cemetery map for Jeremiah French. All the stones in the cemetery were identified on the map except for one. This lone stone in section "C" was not clearly identified by name on the map. Lynne had a transcription of every stone in the cemetery except this poorly identified one. This was the mystery stone.

With this new knowledge fresh in hand, I headed off to Cornwall, wife and kids in tow. We arrived at the cemetery about mid-afternoon in early September. The wind was blowing and Fall was very much in the air. I went to section "C", but there was nothing to see. There was no stone visible, just a large space of well maintained grass. I assumed the map was wrong and proceeded to walk among the stones in the other part of the cemetery. I found George Robertson's grave marker (Canadian Regiment of Fencible Infantry), Jeremiah's son in

law. This man had purchased Jeremiah's house, which now sits in Upper Canada Village. With tension mounting and kids clamoring to leave, I again headed over to section "C" and took another careful look. Still nothing. As I turned to leave, the wind changed direction and the trees blew the other way, allowing the sun to flash through at a different angle. At that instant I caught a glimpse of something at ground level about 30 feet from where I was standing. I headed over to the spot and at first saw nothing. And then I noticed a small piece of exposed stone. There appeared to be a letter carved on it. I dropped down on my hands and knees and brushed it clean. There was indeed writing on it. I then started pulling out great tufts of grass, removing topsoil in the process, slowly exposing a collection of stone fragments. I worked my way to what became the western edge of the stone. I then

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J. French grave marker in Maple Grove Cemetery, Cornwall, Ontario

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started in the other direction in search of the eastern edge. At this point my excitement alerted my children that I had found something. Now many hands started to work at clearing away the grass and soil. As we approached what eventually became the top of the stone, the name Jeremiah French became visible. I can't describe the feeling I felt at that moment. It was eerie.

I took several photographs of the smashed stone. The stone was in 15 pieces, with at least one, possibly two pieces missing. Service vehicles and grass cutters had been driving over it for quite some time. The stone is pressed into the earth and is very uneven. I wrote down the information from the marker and deposited a copy of the transcription with Lynne Cook to complete her Maple Grove Cemetery book. I contacted George Anderson in early October, 2003 and relayed my findings to him. George was very dismayed at the state of his ancestor's stone. The last time George visited the site the marker was standing and in-

fact. I explained the severity of the damage to him and asked for his permission to start a project to restore or replace the marker. George was in agreement that something should be done. Winter settled in and I was busy with work assignments in Toronto and Windsor. It wasn't until early June that I had the time to revisit this idea. In July, 2004 the idea of restoring or replacing the stone was presented to St. Lawrence Branch UELAC as a possible branch project.

The idea of a project took off and a committee was soon formed. The committee very quickly got down to the business of putting everything in motion to make the project a success. I am glad to report that we have made excellent progress with all the partners involved (St. Lawrence Branch UELAC; UELAC Burial Project; The Museum of Applied Military History; Trinity Church (Cornwall), Maple Grove Cemetery; and members of the French family).

I completed the archaeological work on the site of the original stone on

September 23. All of the stone fragments were retrieved and have been carefully wrapped and placed into storage. We recently received word from the SD&G Highlanders Museum (which is housed in the Cornwall Armoury) that they will accept the original grave stone and display it in their museum. This was great news, because this important artifact will remain in the tri-counties (Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry).

A new stone has been ordered and will be ready by the spring. On Sunday, June 19, 2005, as part of the Loyalist Day Weekend, we are planning an unveiling ceremony of the new stone at Maple Grove Cemetery in Cornwall, Ontario. The official ceremony is still in the planning stages, but all members of the Museum of Applied Military History, especially the Royal Yorkers, are invited to attend. More information and details will be available in the coming months.

Shaun Wallace
Duncan's Coy & Singleton's Coy

Yorker Ladies Painting Discussion Group

A few Yorker women have gotten together to try out an experimental on-line discussion group regarding high gussy clothing, accessories and mores. The idea is to examine period paintings and drawings in detail in order to expand our knowledge base. If it is successful, we may move to other topics at a later date. So far it's a bit slow as we all have busy lives. If you are interested in just viewing the paintings we have been looking at, we have a website:

www.triafata.org/krrpdg

If you are interested in joining in the discussion, please contact Nancy Watt at crowceildh@hotmail.com.

Nancy Watt



WITH ZEAL AND BAYONETS ONLY

Recently, the Colonel was privileged to obtain a copy of a Doctoral Thesis written by Mathew Spring at Leeds University on the recommendation of our retired member, John Houlding, the author of "Fit for Service." The work deals with British tactics during the Revolution. One of Spring's most startling hypotheses is that British troops in North America changed from a reliance on firepower to a system of rapid and intimidating movement.

The following is an excerpt of a letter from John Houlding offering his observations on this important new work.

...Among the many aspects of the study that I liked, three things particularly struck me.

In the first place, the tactics demonstrate a remarkable flexibility and adaptability on the part of the British regimental officers, at all levels. They'd been training since the Seven Years War in a much more rigid, heavy system, based upon controlled fire and slow movement, and went into action with it at Bunker Hill. And yet by 1776 they'd been able to adopt, to comprehend, and to use very skillfully this quite different system. To do that, they had to understand their business thoroughly.

Firepower had been the forte of the British infantry in the Seven Years War, and before. Yet [the author] demonstrates that the British very quickly became more interested in closing with and reaching the rebels, delivering shock, than in employing fire. The loose, open file intervals and rapid motions, facilitated traversing broken ground in the attack, but would have significantly reduced the effectiveness of fire by making its concentration impossible and its control very difficult.

Secondly, it's plain that the regimental officers could never have adopted a loose, dynamic, aggressive, and rapid system like this without having had great confidence in their men. This of course flies in the face of our received wisdom about the OR's, and is real



food for thought....

Lastly, if one is to understand American War of Independence fighting, one has to remember that had the British tried the tactical system which [the author] describes, with its loose order and rapid motions, against a regular European army, they would have been cut to pieces. [He] seems to be saying that the primary tactical assumption until late in the American War of Independence was that the rebels generally lacked the discipline to fight well, and could be hustled if they attempted to fight in the open. Thus the whole British purpose was to close with them, trusting to regular morale and discipline to do the job, and with low casualties. That, of course, would not work against good troops, or an army with cavalry, and thus the inapplicability of the overall tactical system, if not some of the details of the light-infantry work, against the French after 1792. Another good thing is that, when in print, this study will set the cat among the USA-ian pigeons and, I gleefully hope, thoroughly piss off Brother Jonathan. They must have been lousy

troops indeed to have this system laid on them.

And the Colonel provided his comments to the author.

What a superb study of British Infantry! I found it remarkably revealing in so many ways, and that's after 29 years of studying the bloody war.

1) **Your conclusion about the tactics employed during engagements** - First, a head-long, disciplined advance at speed. None of this slow, involved, ponderous deployment that we so often reenact in our advances! Then, in some cases, a halt to fire a volley at effective range, and always right at them with cold steel. And, you've cited case after case to prove your point. I was certainly aware that this method was used at times, but you've been very convincing that it was the standard method. Not always as well controlled as might be wished, but used over and over again.

As you perhaps are aware, our reenactments hold to the Dutch school of disciplined platoon, division, wing and line firing to gain ascendancy. Our

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fellows are better trained than our opposition, and we usually have no difficulty in over awing them. Of course, this is something that we can recreate. However, the shock tactic of going at them with the bayonet is not. In most cases, it simply isn't permitted due to fear of accidents - both to the opposition and to our own people during the execution. And when we deliver our infrequent charges, we are only at jogging speed for the last 100 yds or so - not 300 to 800!!

That said, we've made a few notable charges. One of them on the Plains of Abraham in Quebec City. You'll be amused to know that us Canadians - Franco and Anglo - can't agree to 'fight' sensibly against each other and there will never be a reenactment of the 1759 battle, at least in my time. Our French Canadians simply cannot accept that they would have to lose the battle - and badly. Their Gallic pride won't allow it. So, the reenactments we have in Quebec City are Revolutionary War. This particular one featured some French/French troops (every one of them a Yank). They were advancing up the base of a hill against our Provincial Brigade above them. Then suddenly, a drenching downpour and everything came to a halt. Of course, the muskets wouldn't work. So, our Provincial Brigade commander, Acting/Colonel Allan Joyner, decided to give the soaking audience a show, had his brigade fix and charge bayonets, and charged down the hill into the French. The two British brigades followed his lead and did the same into the Continentals. There are rules against this kind of action, but the crowd of thousands loved it and all the participants accepted the fact that, if a charge hadn't been made, the whole show would have fizzled out in the downpour.

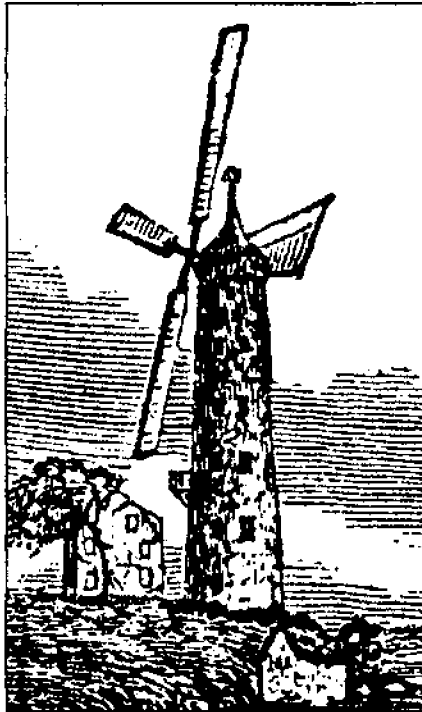
2) Your discussion of the troops being so vocal during the charges ~ Our treatment of a charge has been the exact antithesis. We require the men to be utterly silent as soon as the bayonets are charged. Some British reenactors shout Huzzah as the bayonets come down, but we do not. We advance at march pace for about 1/3 the

distance and the only voices heard are the NCO's maintaining dressing. We then go through two or three pace increases on the orders of the officer commanding, who is out front in the lead. The men are only encouraged to yell for that last 50 yds at the run. Now, I'm describing how our Northern Brigade executes a charge. If I recall correctly, the British Brigade executes the whole charge at a single pace, a

brisk march, and, due to safety considerations, don't run at any time.

You've given me much to think about on this issue. Your various proofs that British/Provincial troops shouted out patriotic comments came as quite a surprise. We had concluded that this practice was simply Yankee bullshit that our British (read - Yank) reenactors adopted to appear more convincingly British.

First Windmill in Ontario Built by Yorker



I was recently doing some research on one of my favourite pastimes, Bath's local history. I was specifically looking at the escape of the 22-gun British corvette "Royal George". I had been put onto a lead regarding a fortified circular structure which housed a British 50-pounder. While investigating, I found out that the structure was a windmill. The windmill is mentioned in the *Settlement of Upper Canada* by Canniff. It stated:

A windmill was built at a somewhat early period by Sergeant Howell nearly opposite the Upper Gap in Fredericksburgh. It was sold to one Russell who was an Engineer in Kingston in the War of 1812.

Sergeant Howell turned out to be Sergeant Major John Howell of the

King's Royal Regiment of New York. According to the Cruikshank & Watt muster lists, Howell served in the 1st and 2nd Battalion, enlisting April 23, 1777. Howell married his first wife, Eva Catherine Sheets, at Oswego and they had two children before settling in Fredericksburgh. Reverend John Langhorn baptized three more Howell children before Catherine's death. Howell would later marry Nancy Fairman of Prince Edward County. By 1804 Howell had settled in Sophiasburgh where he was appointed an Indian Agent and Colonel of the Militia. Sgt. Howell had purchased the property for the windmill from the original grantee and had begun construction around 1785. He remained there for 12 years before moving to Sophiasburgh. This windmill is considered the first wind powered mill in Upper Canada.

The original site of the windmill is just west of County Road #8 on Hwy #33 and just west of the Ontario Hydro Lennox Generating Station that dominates the Bay of Quinte landscape. We do know that the windmill was fortified during the War of 1812 and is reputed to have exchanged fire with Issac Chauncey's Brig the Onondaga. It is highly unlikely that a structure of that kind could support the heavy ordnance that it is claimed was there (48-lb carronade). Nothing marks the site today and I have recently approached the Loyalist Parkway Committee to rectify this matter. Many thanks to Gwen Smith who's research guided me to the windmill.

David Smith, U.E.
Duncan's Company

Last May we had another excellent tactical school at Westfield Village.

One of the feature exercises during the weekend was to build authentic fascines. While several platoons were engaged in this task, another detachment was designated to perform guard duty in the vicinity. We soon came to realize how little we knew about the mechanics of the job.

Guard duty was a significant part of every soldier's regular routine. A camp guard was often comprised of 1 Subaltern, 1 Serjeant, 1 Corporal, 1 Drummer and 27 privates. The entire group was called a *guard*, and the individual privates were referred to as *sentries*. Guard duty was often a 24-hour stint, so it was necessary to divide the guard into 3 detachments, with each sub-group covering an 8-hour period. Depending on the size of the perimeter to be watched, it was often necessary to send out more than one guard, each with a designated area of responsibility.

Once the guard arrived at its designated position, 1/3 of the sentries would be posted. The guard would be centrally located in the chain of sentries, so that they could respond quickly in either direct, should any one of the sentries give the alarm. One sentry was posted *before the guard*, or in the vicinity of the guard. The remaining sentries would be posted in an extended line to the right and left of the guard.

When it was time to relieve the sentries, 1/3 of the guard would be standing sentry, 1/3 would be circulating to the various sentry posts to replace the old sentries, and 1/3 would remain at the guard post ready to respond to an alarm.

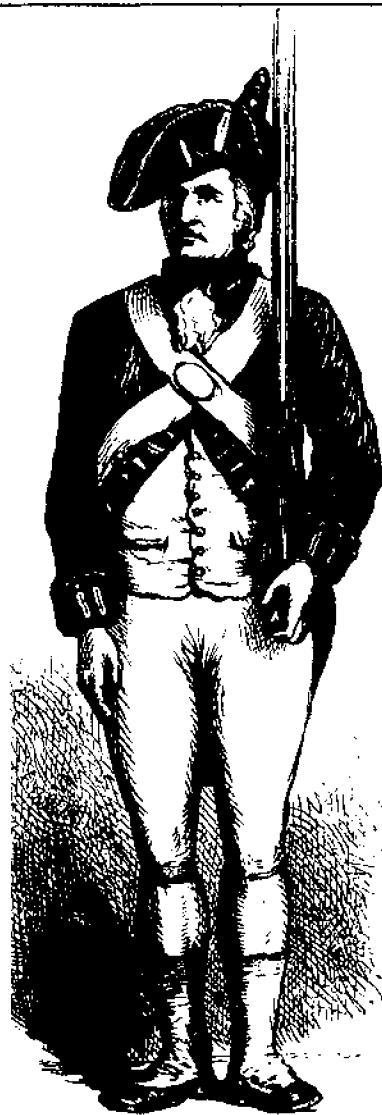
Although each soldier would only stand sentry for 8 of the 24 hours on guard duty, the remaining 16 hours would not be considered leisure time. When not standing sentry the soldiers were strictly controlled:

- On no account may a soldier take off his accoutrements, or straggle more than twenty paces from the guard.

THERES MORE TO BEING A SENTRY THAN MEETS THE EYE

one place like the sentries at Buckingham Palace? What do you do if

someone approaches that you don't recognize? What do you do if a body of troops approach that you recognize as a patrol? When do you ask for a countersign? Here are some instructions to sentries that may help.



- During the night, and when near the enemy during the day, the guard must remain under arms while the relief party is relieving the sentries.
- During the night no man may lie down or sleep on any account, but have his arms constantly in his hands, and be ready to fall in on the least alarm.
- During the day the men may be permitted to rest themselves as much as is consistent with the safety of the guard.

And now to the issue at hand. When you are posted as a sentry, what is expected of you? Do you stand rigidly in

- A sentry is to be vigilant on his post. Neither is he to sing, smoke tobacco, nor permit any noise to be made near him. He is not to sit down, lay his arms out of his hands, or sleep. He is to keep moving about his post, if the weather allows of it.
- He is to have a watchful eye over the things committed to his charge, and not permit any of them to be removed, or taken away, till he has orders from the corporal of the guard for it.
- He is not to permit anyone to touch or handle his arms, or, in the night-time, to come within the reach of it.
- He is not to permit any light to remain, or any fire to be made near his post in the night-time. Neither is the sentry to be relieved, or removed from his post, but by the corporal of the guard.
- Nobody is to strike or abuse a sentry on his post. When he has committed a crime, he is to be relieved, and then punished according to the rules and articles of war.
- If a sentry is taken ill on his post, or if he is physically not able to perform his duty, especially due to severe weather conditions, he is to call the corporal of the guard, in order that he might be relieved. If a sentry so taken is at too great a distance to be heard by the corporal of the guard, the sentry next to him is to pass the word to the corporal and so on from one to the other until the corporal is so notified. This is why it is a standing rule to put all sentries within call of one another, particularly on the ramparts of a town.

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- As soon as it is dark, the sentry is to challenge anyone who approaches him. If any person, after having been ordered to stand, should continue to approach or attempt to escape, the sentry, after challenging him three times, must fire on him.
- A sentry of the interior guard of the camp should challenge at such hours as are determined in orders, according to circumstances.
- A sentry, on perceiving any person approach, must challenge briskly, and never permit more than one to advance until the countersign has been given. If the countersign is not given, the sentry must call the serjeant of the guard and keep the person at a little distance from his post until the serjeant arrives.
- When a sentry on an outpost perceives more than three men approaching, he must order them to stand, and immediately pass word for the serjeant of the guard.
- If a sentry, on challenging, is answered *relief, patrol* or *round* he

must order the serjeant or corporal to advance with the countersign. If he is then assured of their being the *relief, etc.*, he may permit them to advance.

- The sentry must take the greatest care not to be surprised.
- The sentry must never permit a person who advances to give the countersign to approach within reach of his arms. He must always charge his bayonet.
- A sentry must not permit any person to pass in or out of camp, except by one of the guards, and not until the officer of the guard has examined him.

It was a normal occurrence for the officer of the day to check on the various guards and their sentries during the course of their guard duty. This was known as making their *rounds*. The officer would go first to the guard to confirm that all were present, their arms and accoutrements were in order, the officer and NCO's were acquainted with their duty, and ensure that the sentries were properly posted. The sentry before the guard would call

out the guard and a formal exchange would take place. After this initial encounter the officer of the day, with a serjeant and two men from the guard, would proceed to each of the sentry posts. So, if you are standing sentry and the officer of the day approaches, doing his round, you should be prepared to initiate the following exchange:

- Sentry challenges the rounds – *Halt. Who goes there.*
- Serjeant of the rounds replies – *Grand rounds.*
- Sentry responds – *Stand grand rounds. Advance serjeant with the countersign.*
- Serjeant of the rounds advances and gives the countersign.
- Sentry cries – *Advance rounds.*
- Sentry presents arms until rounds have passed.

Of course there is far more to the subject of guards than can be addressed in this brief article. However, these points may help us play our roles more accurately when assigned to guard duty at some future event.

Sjt. Dave Putnam

The Surgery of Warfare

“Human-kind has always been subject to violence – contusions, fractures, dislocations, impalements, and eviscerations,” states Harold Ellis, Medicine: A History of Healing.

“The true test of a surgeon's skill is his ability to withstand the rigors of modern surgery.” B.Barclay-Fynche, Brigade Surgeon.

Members of the Royal Yorkers will no doubt be relieved to know that your Brigade surgeon and hospital are fully equipped and ready to answer the call. Whether lacerations and contusions occur after a ‘battle royale’ at the tavern, or as a result of simply thrashing rebels bold enough to show a face, every sort of medical emergency will be quickly dispatched. A partial list of typical surgical implements available include: scissors, lint, bandages, linen thread, needles, retractors, tourniquets, tenaculum, straight and curved flesh-cutting knives, and

lastly, bone saws. To control bleeding, lint, bandages and thread are always used. The retractors, tenaculum, and tourniquets are required to locate and tie off blood vessels. As for the remainder of these surgical implements, their use should be frighten-

ingly obvious.

Any significant injury to a limb, such as a compound fracture caused by a musket ball must inevitably result in amputation. Doctors know that anything less than this procedure will result in gangrene and an agonizingly slow death. Amputation is well known and frequently practiced. Begin the

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surgery by placing a tourniquet between the heart and the fractured limb to reduce blood flow. Have the surgeon's mate firmly restrain the patient. Use the capital knife to cut the flesh in a half-moon shape, creating two flaps, which will be later re-joined to cover the stump of the limb. Then pull this muscle mass back to expose the bone. Saw through the bone expeditiously, locate and suture off any major blood vessels. Finally, stitch the two flaps together. Cover the wound with lint and bandage in the ordinary manner.

After the surgery the inflamed stump will be treated with a soothing poultice, salves and a 'weak diet'. Eventually, the inflammation stage will subside. A digestion stage will then appear as indicated by "laudable pus".

This will signal to the doctor and patient that the healing process has well and truly begun. Unlikely as it seems, if the patient survives the initial injury, then he has a good chance of surviving.

Not a re-enactment goes by where some well-intentioned and ill-informed member of the general public doesn't remind me to liberally administer alcohol as a general analgesic. For some reason, this simple request is regularly met with complete agreement on the part of the soldier/patient prior to the beginning of some painfully invasive procedure. On one occasion, I recall several family members of the same soldier/patient insisted they too should have some sort of liquid comfort, so that they could more easily bear the rigors of this medical procedure. The

request was naturally denied.

Full anesthesia has yet to be invented, so the patient will be encouraged to be brave as the surgeon works as quickly as possible to minimize pain. Operating theatre accounts tell of limbs being successfully removed in less than three minutes, however in one instance, the assisting surgeon's mate lost two fingers in the melee. The only undocumented use of alcohol in our period is to fortify the surgeon who has to face the ghastly rigors of surgery far too often.

My advice to all Yorkers is to volunteer for the rear ranks and then to regale others with your heroics after the battle, for there should be promotions enough for all when the dust and smoke clear.

Mr. B. Barclay-Fynche
Brigade Surgeon

Circular Camp Kitchens

When we prepare a camp kitchen at an event, we commonly dig a shallow fire pit, encircle the pit with stones, and construct some form of support system from which to suspend the cooking pots. Simple, fast and easy to dismantle at the end of the weekend.

However, military records from the 18th century suggest that more substantial kitchens were constructed, when there was time and space to do so. Regimental kitchens were typically located at the rear of the camp, and were often comprised of a series of circular ditches. The earth taken from the ditch was thrown into the centre to create a mound. Multiple fire pits were then dug in the interior wall of the ditch, with one pit per mess group or tent squad. A contemporary account by Lewis Lochee (*An Essay On Castrementation*) described the circular kitchen as follows:

The kitchen for each company, is a space of 16 feet diameter, with a ditch surrounding it 3 feet wide, the opposite bank of which serves as a seat for the men who dress the victuals... and as each tent forms a mess, each kitchen should have as many fire places as there are tents

No, its not a UFO



in the company.

Humphrey Bland also describes an earthen kitchen in his 1762 *Treatise of Military Discipline*. His was a circular construction with a 16 foot wide mound in the centre, with a 1 ½ foot shelf around it. Encircling this was a ditch, 3 feet wide by 2 feet deep. This construction would accommodate 11 or 12 fireplaces, each consisting of a 1 foot square firebox dug into the interior wall of the ditch. Each fire box had a 4" diameter chimney hole that went through the shelf above. The mess group's kettle would be placed on top of the chimney opening and heated from the fire beneath.

This design had several distinct advantages. First off, just imagine the comfort of being able to sit on the exterior ledge of the pit while preparing the food. Instead of bending over a ground level fire, the cook would tend the fire in an elevated fire box. And

best of all, the kettle would sit on the shelf, at least 2 feet above the floor of the trench, like a modern day stovetop.

In addition to the comfort provided by this design, the fire box would have been a fairly efficient method of providing heat. Because the fires were contained in an enclosed box, they were not affected by rain, wind or inclement weather. Also, the enclosed space generated important fuel efficiency. Less wood was needed to serve the troops cooking needs. And of course the heat that was generated in the box was directed up the chimney, which ensured consistent and concentrated heat for the cooking kettle.

It has been suggested that the construction of such a kitchen would be an interesting project for a future reenactment event. Something to think about.

Sgt Dave Putnam

For Your Information

Regiment Earns Cash

Thanks to Major Reg James, who once again organized the Northern Brigade appearance at Thornhill. Each year, the event sponsor pays the brigade a fixed fee, and the proceeds are divided on a per capita basis amongst the attending units. As the KRR was sparsely represented, we earned only \$658.08 in comparison to the usual \$1,000+. However, the coffers need every dime they get.

And much thanks to Pte Dave Smith of Duncan's Coy who organized on the same weekend the regiment's first appearance at the Ameliasberg Museum in Quinte, not far from the great Kente Carrying Place. This event earned the unit a stipend of \$370.00.

So, in combination, we're fortunate that our annual paid event income is the same as usual, although Ameliasberg was meant to be a bonus, not a 'make-up.'

The Colonel

Yorkers Support Oriskany Movie Shoot

On Labour Day weekend 11 Yorkers participated in a documentary Movie shoot about the Battle of Oriskany. This was for Fort Stanwix's new visitor centre, opening next June. I suggest all Yorkers come to watch the movie. See the Lights shoot Herkimer, watch Duncan's engage in battle with the rebels. It is fantastic.

A good time was had by all. In true Yorker tradition, we made our presence known. On the last day of shooting the Oneida Indian Nation made a surprise presentation to the KRR. They presented us with their nation's flag as a symbol of peace as we had been at war with them since they turned their backs on the Mohawks. This was quite a surprise! The Rebels were so impressed with us we earned the title RUMP RANGERS. The Yorkers also asked to have a drink with Pepe. Those who know Pepe, know what I mean. Those that don't, well maybe you will find yourself staring into Pepe one day.

On a personal note I would like to add, I really enjoyed the company of Duncan's Coy and look forward to a time when we can do this again.

Sjt Sean Jeffrey, Light Coy

Note: Following the Fort Stanwix shoot Gavin received the following.

Dear Gavin: All of us at Northern Light wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your assistance with our Ft Stanwix project. We finished shooting in September and we are very happy with how the footage turned out. We could not have gotten to that point without your input on the script. Thanks for helping us get it right!

Emily & the NLP Team

Siege of Charleston 225th Event ~ May 14 & 15, 2005

The Siege of Charleston event is taking place next Spring on May 14/15. This is a major event of the British Brigade, Brigade of the American Revolution, and Continental Line. The King's Royal Yorkers will not be attending because of the fifteen hour drive involved. However, the 7th Regiment (Royal Fusiliers) will be attending if numbers are sufficient. Colonel Watt has graciously given leave for members of the King's Royal Yorkers who are interested in attending this event to be seconded to the Royal Fusiliers for the weekend. Interested parties will bring all of their regular KRY uniform and equipment. We have a limited supply of borrowed red coats to lend for the weekend. Please note that the secondment is for the weekend only. Out of professional courtesy, the Royal Fusiliers do not recruit active members of the King's Royal Yorkers and you will not be invited or permitted to become a Fusilier, except for the purposes of this event.

Interested parties should contact Robert Stewart at (519) 688-5996, or by e-mail at royal_fusiliers@hotmail.com no later than 31 December, 2004. If insufficient volunteers come forward before that date, we will not be attending. If sufficient numbers do come forward, we will investigate hiring a bus to carry participants and their equipment to Charleston departing from the Toronto-Hamilton area on the evening of Thursday, May 12 and returning early Monday morning, May 16.

Robert Stewart

Ben Ripley Surfaces

Musketman Ben Ripley has finally surfaced! The former hatman vanished several years ago, but obviously still values his original military service. I hope he has a lifejacket. Capt. Allan Joyner

"Things are going quite well for me here in Halifax. I am still serving in the Navy as a Naval Combat Information Operator (basically a radar operator). I am currently doing submarine training and will probably be serving on one of them by the middle of next year. Thank you for updating me on the KRR. Feel free to keep me abreast on Yorker events and news, especially if you guys are doing an event here in Nova Scotia. You never know. Please give my current address to Sjt Mjr Moore and the rest of Duncan's Company and tell them to keep in touch.

Ben Ripley, 17-10 Sybyl Court, Halifax, NS B3M 1G8, (902) 453-2176 email: benripley@canada.com